

REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 17, 2005, has been carefully considered. Claims 1-27 are currently pending. Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the above amendments and the following remarks, and pass the application to allowance.

Obviousness-type double patenting:

Claims 23-25 and 27 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/272,325. Claims 23 and 24 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/820,247 in view of Ozawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,332,680). Claim 26 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 27 of copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/272,325 in view of Ozawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,332,680). A Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejections over prior patents is filed herewith to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejections.

Claim Objections:

Claims 8 and 18 were rejected to because of informalities. The informalities of Claims 8 and 18 have been corrected.

35 U.S.C. §112:

Claims 4 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 4 and 17 have been amended to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which application regards as the invention. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

35. U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 12 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ozawa.

Claim 12 as amended recites a receptacle adapted to receive a disk from a conveyor surface comprising: a housing comprising a guide member, at least one support member, and a base member; a removable hopper adapted to receive the disk from the guide member, the hopper comprising a spindle attachable to a base, wherein the spindle is adapted to receive a plurality of disks from the guide member; and wherein the guide member guides the disk from the conveyor surface onto the spindle.

Ozawa relates to a printing apparatus having an ink-jet printer, a reciprocating medium tray for conveying a medium to be printed by the printer, a medium feeding mechanism, and a medium retrieving mechanism. As shown in FIG. 4, the medium retrieving section 61 comprises a cartridge type medium cylinder 611, an outer case 612 for removably accommodating the medium storage cylinder 611. "The outer case 612 in the medium storage cylinder 611 of this configuration is removably accommodated comprises a rectangular frame 618 wherein a plurality of (four, for example) cylinders guides having tapered upper ends are concentrically disposed. The medium storage cylinder 611 can be removably inserted into the space defined by the cylinder guides 619 from above." Col. 6, lines 35-41. As set forth, the cylinder guides 619 guides the medium storage cylinder 611 into the housing 612. Ozawa, however, does not teach or suggest wherein the guide member guides the disk from the conveyor surface onto the spindle. Accordingly, Claim 12 should be allowable. Claims 19-21 are dependent from Claim 12 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above.

35. U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-11, 13, 15-17 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa as applied to Claim 22 above, in view of Wolfer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,123,020).

Claim 1 as amended recites a receptacle adapted to receive a disk from a conveyor surface comprising: a housing comprising a guide member, at least one

support member, and a base member; a removable hopper adapted to receive the disk from the guide member, the hopper comprising a plurality of posts affixed to a base, a platform adapted to receive the disk from the guide member, and an elastic body positioned between the base and the platform; and wherein the guide member guides the disk from the conveyor surface into the hopper. (Emphasis added).

As set forth above, Ozawa does not teach or suggest a guide member, wherein the guide member guides the disk from the conveyor surface into the hopper. Accordingly, Claim 1 should be allowable. Claims 2, 5-7, and 9-11 are dependent from Claim 1 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above as to Claim 1. Claims 13, 15-17 and 22 are dependent from Claim 12 and should be allowable also for the reasons set forth above.

Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa and Wolfer as applied to Claim 1 above, in view of Pottier (U.S. Patent No. 6,494,309). Claims 3 and 4 are dependent from Claim 1 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above as to Claim 1.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa and Wolfer as applied to Claim 1 above, in view of Dinh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,312,522). Claim 8 is dependent from Claim 1 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above as to Claim 1.

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa as applied to Claim 12 above, in view of Pottier. Claim 14 is dependent from Claim 12 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above as to Claim 12.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozawa as applied to Claim 12 above, in view of Dinh et al. Claim 18 is dependent from Claim 12 and should be allowable for the reasons set forth above as to Claim 12.

Conclusion:

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-27 are presently in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is requested. If, however, any matters remain that could be clarified by Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.



By: 50,184 for
Kirk M. Nuzum
Registration No. 38,983

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P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404
(650) 622-2300